



Brownfields 2017 Area-Wide Planning Grant Fact Sheet

Grants Pass, OR

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through competitive grant programs for brownfields site assessment, site cleanup, revolving loan funds, area-wide planning, and job training. Additional funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Program

EPA's Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Program assists communities in responding to local brownfields challenges, particularly where multiple brownfield sites are in close proximity, connected by infrastructure, and limit the economic, environmental and social prosperity of their surroundings. This program enhances EPA's core brownfields assistance programs by providing grant funding to communities so they can perform the research needed to develop an area-wide plan and implementation strategies for brownfields assessment, cleanup, and reuse. The resulting area-wide plans provide direction for future brownfields area improvements that are protective of public health and the environment, economically viable, and reflective of the community's vision for the area.

Project Description

\$200,000.00

EPA has selected the City of Grants Pass as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant recipient. The city will work with the community and other stakeholders to develop an area-wide plan and implementation strategy for the 61-acre former Spalding and Son, Inc., sawmill site. The project area was once home to a lumber and plywood manufacturing operation, but has been vacant or significantly underutilized since 1998. There are two high-priority catalyst sites in the project area: the former Siberia wood treatment facility and the former Southwest Forest Industries Plywood Plant 4. Both sites are suspected of containing hazardous substance contamination. The project will assess existing site conditions and historical uses, provide an assessment of the investment needed to start redevelopment, and provide an economic analysis of likely public and private investment costs and how these costs will impact reuse and redevelopment options. Developing an area-wide plan is expected to expedite revitalization efforts in the project area, remove uncertainty about environmental conditions at the catalyst sites, and enable the city to implement its Comprehensive Plan for redevelopment. Key partners who will work with the city on this project include the Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc., Business Oregon, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Josephine County Solid Waste Agency, and Oregon Health Authority.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 10 Brownfields Team
(206) 553-7299
EPA Region 10 Brownfields Web site
(<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-washington-idaho-oregon-and-alaska>)

Grant Recipient: City of Grants Pass, OR
(541) 450-6015

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.